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CALIFORNIA ASSAULT WEAPONS FACTS

Assault Weapons Traced to Crime Scenes in California

From 1995 to 2000, 1,457 assault weapons were traced to crime scenes in California according to the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The top six assault weapons found in California are: SKS, MAK90, Mini 14, NHM90/91, AB10, and Bushmaster. None of these guns are affected by the current federal assault weapons ban. *All would be banned by S. 1431 and H.R. 2038, legislation that would strengthen and renew the current law.*

Selected Post-Ban Assault Weapons Traced in California, 1995-2000

Firearm	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Total
SKS	43	96	65	77	132	105	518
MAK90	39	54	43	49	53	27	265
Mini 14	15	39	24	50	56	50	234
NHM90/91	1	45	10	19	12	5	92
AB10	0	2	9	24	24	13	72
Bushmaster	0	3	16	12	19	22	72
Maadi	0	6	7	7	12	16	48
FEG ¹	2	5	7	15	8	9	46
Arsenal of Bulgaria ²	0	2	6	11	10	11	40

¹ Includes the models SA85 and SA2000.

² Includes the models SA93 and SLR95.

Firearm	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Total
DPMS	1	5	0	1	1	31	39
Other ³	0	1	2	5	7	16	31
Total	101	258	189	270	334	305	1,457

Source: Data from Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. Analysis by the Violence Policy Center.

Law Enforcement Officers Killed with Assault Weapons in California

From 1998 to 2000, five law enforcement officers were killed in California in the line of duty with assault weapons according to information from the Federal Bureau of Investigation. One of those officers was Sheriff's Deputy Brad Riches who was killed when a suspect riddled his police car with bullets fired from a post-ban AK-47 assault rifle.

Examples of Assault Weapon Incidents in California

- In December 2003, convicted felon and gang member Javier Torres, 24, was charged with attempted murder after he allegedly shot and wounded two sheriff's deputies with a Calico M951 assault rifle. The deputies had gone to a home to locate Torres, who was wanted on suspicion of possessing a firearm, a probation violation. Torres allegedly opened fired on the deputies from inside the home as they arrived. The gun had been reported stolen in Nevada earlier in the year. (*City News Service*, "Deputies Shot," December 24, 2003)
- In December 2003, Mauro Camacho, 20, Oscar Galeno, 27, and Freddy Reyes, 15, were shot in a Chevrolet pickup truck with what police believe to be an AK-47 assault rifle. All died. According to police, "We found some shell casings in the alley. It looks like the shooter started there, they tried to get away and he followed them on foot. It was an assault weapon." News reports revealed, "More than two dozen shell casings, probably from an AK-47, were found in the alley and the street and on the sidewalk, police said." (Michael Krikorian, *Los Angeles Times*, "3 Are Killed by Gunfire in South-Central L.A.," December 12, 2003)
- In February 2003, police arrested Derrick Edgerly, 31, for allegedly staking out bank parking lots and preying on people carrying deposit bags. Edgerly would allegedly complete his robberies by flashing a firearm under his coat. Police found a TEC-9 assault pistol in Edgerly's car and stated that they had connected him to at least one robbery. (www.fox40.trb.com, "Sacramento Police Arrest Suspected Bank Robber," February 12, 2003)
- In November 2002, two masked men armed with an AK-47 assault rifle shot and killed Brinks Inc. guard Dena Monique Daniels, 30, during an armored car robbery in Berkeley. Police believed the attack could be related to two other robberies earlier in the year in San Leandro in which armored car guards were attacked by men armed with assault weapons. (Henry K. Lee, *The San Francisco Chronicle*, "Takeover heists on the rise," November 26, 2002)

³ Other includes: Hi-Point Carbine, Ratmil (WUM 1, WUM 2, Romak 1, and Romak 2), SAR8, and SAR4800.

- In August 2001, serial rapist Vincent Henry Sanchez confessed to the murder of 20-year-old college student Megan Barroso after being convicted and sentenced to life in prison for a series of rapes he committed in Simi Valley. Barroso had been shot and killed with an AK-47 assault rifle. (Tina Dirmann, *Los Angeles Times*, August 12, 2001 and Grace Lee, *The Daily News of Los Angeles*, February 8, 2003)
- In January 2000, Joga Singh Sandher, 35, allegedly opened fire with an AR-15 assault rifle at a Sikh temple in El Sobrante killing Ajmer Singh Malhi, 48, a secretary and founding member of the Temple. Another man was shot in the leg during a struggle for the gun. Sandher opened fire after being told he could not address the 300 worshipers because of "time constraints." (Henry K. Lee, *The San Francisco Chronicle*, "Fatal Shooting at Sikh Temple," January 24, 2000)